THE NEW
AVENGERS
FINCH
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MARVEL
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It was the worst day in Avengers' history. The Scarlet Witch suffered a total nervous breakdown after losing control of her reality-altering powers. In the chaos created around the breakdown, many of the other Avengers were killed or hurt, both emotionally and physically. Without funding to keep going, the rest of the team quietly disbanded.

The criminal Electro is hired to infiltrate the high-tech maximum-security prison known as the Raft and break out mutant terrorist Karl Lykos. Electro sucks all the power out of Manhattan and overloads the entire island security system, setting free eighty-seven of the most dangerous and powerful criminals on Earth.

Trapped on this prison island are S.H.I.E.L.D. Agent Jessica Drew (a.k.a. Spider-Woman), blind lawyer Matt Murdock (a.k.a. Daredevil), and Luke Cage, Hero for Hire. They have come to see the most powerful super hero in the world, the Sentry, who is rotting in a solitary basement cell because he killed his wife. The gathered heroes are eventually joined by Captain America, Spider-Man, and Iron Man, who help to fight the prison riot. Inspired by these events, Captain America convinces Tony Stark to put a new Avengers team together.

Upon discovering that Lykos was broken out of the Raft, the New Avengers decide to pursue the villain all the way to the mysterious Savage Land, hidden on the continent of Antarctica. They are about to be overpowered by Lykos's alter-ego, Sauron, when he is murdered in cold blood by a rogue S.H.I.E.L.D. battalion.

The battalion is then ordered to set their sights on the Avengers.

BREAKOUT! PART SIX

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ARMOR?

ON LINE, MR. STARK.

ORDER: LOAD 20-FOOT RADIUS POLAR MAGNETIC FIELD.

INSUFFICIENT POWER CELL CHARGE.

WRONG ANSWER.

CHARGING. PLEASE STAND BY.

RAFT FILE ANALYSIS REQUEST COMPLETE.

YEAH, NOW'S NOT A GOOD TIME FOR THAT.

CHARGING. PLEASE STAND BY.

THE NERVE OF YOU, WOMAN!!

PUT YOUR GUNS DOWN AND SURRENDER!!

YOU ARE IN SERIOUS BREACH OF S.H.I.E.L.D. PROTOCOL, BABE.

I GAVE AN ORDER, GENTLEMEN!

CLEAN THE AREA!!

YEAH, BUT...

WHAT IS GOING ON?!! WHO ARE *THEY, ALL* OF A SUDDEN?

WELL, THAT'S YELENA BELOVA.

BELOHOOHUH?

THE BLACK WIDOW.

THE BLACK WIDOW'S A REDHEAD WITH BIGGER--

SHE'S *ANOTHER* ONE.

AND, HEY! YOU AGENTS OF S.H.I.E.L.D.!!

THIS IS *CAPTAIN AMERICA* YOU'RE POINTING YOUR GUNS AT!!

WE'RE THE AVENGERS, AND I'M JESSICA DREW, S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENT, LEVEL SEVEN...SO I'D THINK *TWICE* ABOUT YOUR NEXT MOVE!!

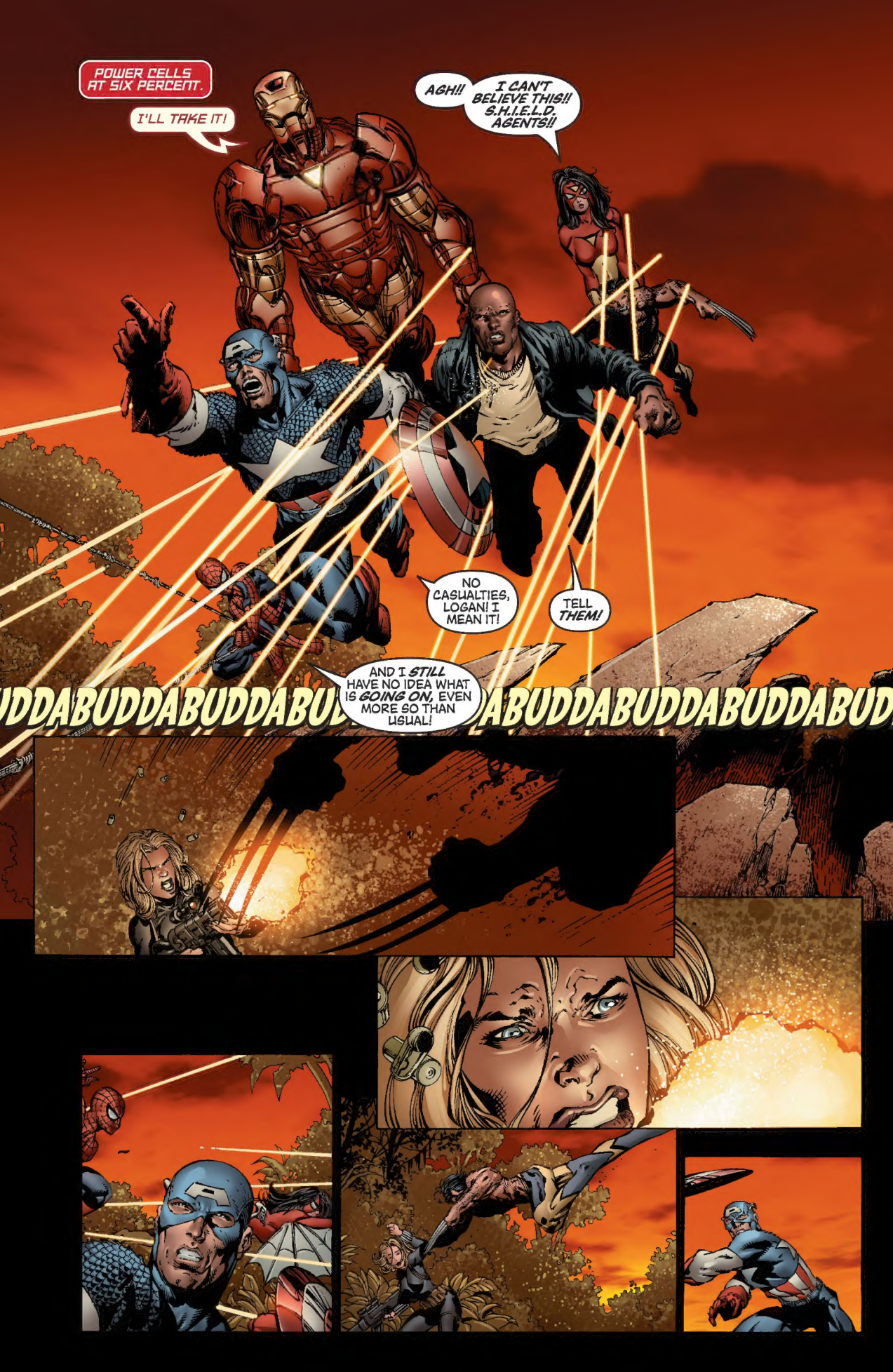
ANY OF YOU!!

I, UH, I AIN'T-- I AIN'T SHOOTIN' AT CAPTAIN AMERICA.

I'M POINT LEADER, AND OUR MISSION IS COMPROMISED. I *SAID,* PUT THEM *DOWN!!*

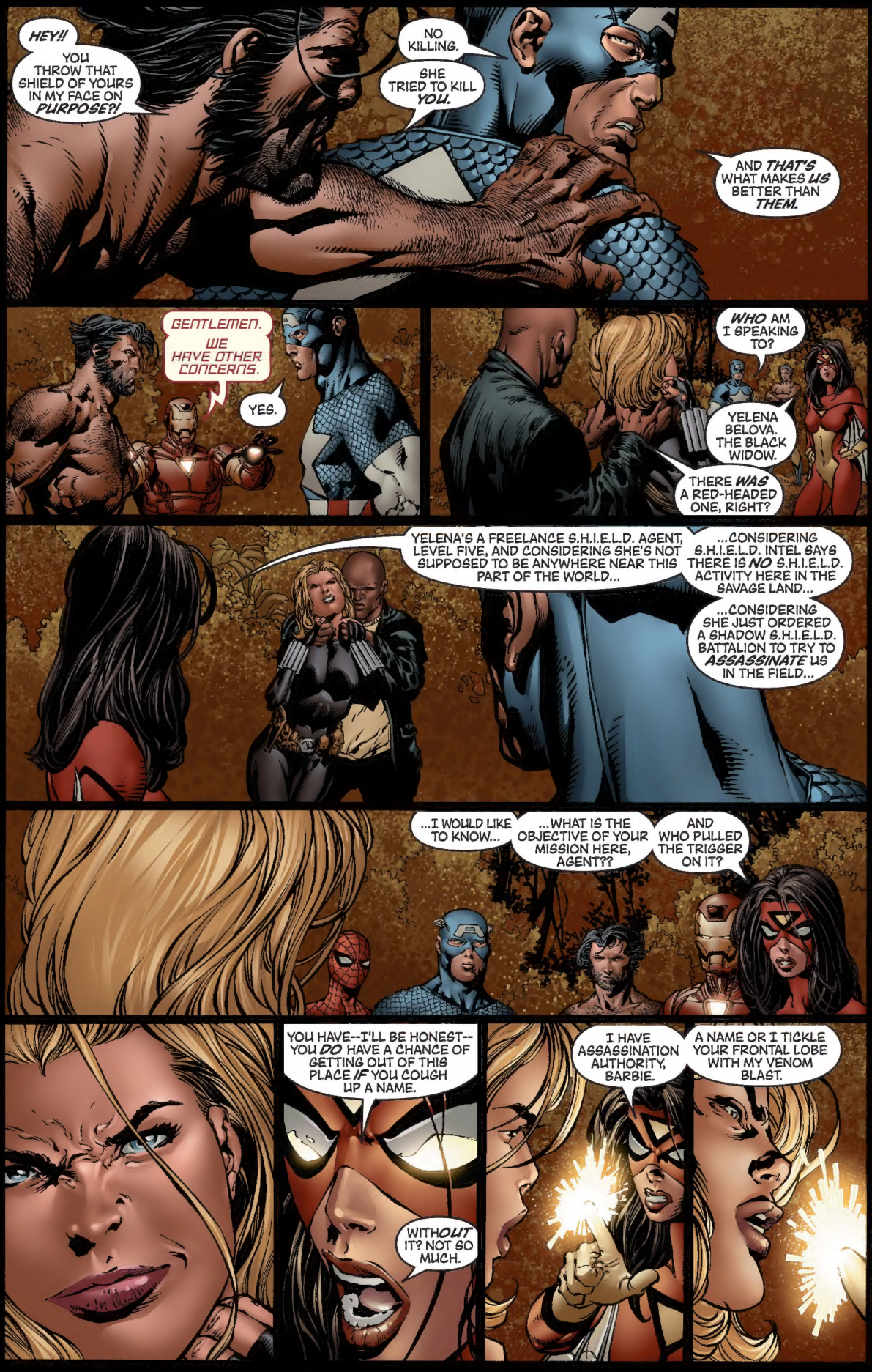
WELL, I--I AIN'T DOIN' IT.

THIS IS NOT A WORLD OF MEN.


POWER CELLS AT SIX PERCENT.
I'LL TAKE IT!
AGH!!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!! S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENTS!!
NO CASUALTIES, LOGAN! I MEAN IT!
TELL THEM!
AND I STILL HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IS GOING ON, EVEN MORE SO THAN USUAL!
UDDABUDDABUDDABU
ABUDDABUDDABUDDABUD

ARGH!
KTANG
AGENTS, I ORDER YOU TO STAND DOWN!!
REMEMBER THAT DINOSAUR?
I MISS THE DINOSAUR.
POLAR MAGNETIC FIELD.
POLAR MAGNETIC FIELD CHARGING.
POWER CELLS AT 11 PERCENT.
THAT'S PLENTY.
MAGNETIC FIELD ACTIVATED. LEVEL: LOW.

UH-OH.


HEY!! YOU THROW THAT SHIELD OF YOURS IN MY FACE ON PURPOSE?!
NO KILLING.
SHE TRIED TO KILL YOU.
AND THAT'S WHAT MAKES US BETTER THAN THEM.
GENTLEMEN. WE HAVE OTHER CONCERNS.
YES.
WHO AM I SPEAKING TO?
YELENA BELOVA. THE BLACK WIDOW.
THERE WAS A RED-HEADED ONE, RIGHT?
YELENA'S A FREELANCE S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENT, LEVEL FIVE, AND CONSIDERING SHE'S NOT SUPPOSED TO BE ANYWHERE NEAR THIS PART OF THE WORLD...
...CONSIDERING S.H.I.E.L.D. INTEL SAYS THERE IS NO S.H.I.E.L.D. ACTIVITY HERE IN THE SAVAGE LAND...
...CONSIDERING SHE JUST ORDERED A SHADOW S.H.I.E.L.D. BATTALION TO TRY TO ASSASSINATE US IN THE FIELD...
...I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW...
...WHAT IS THE OBJECTIVE OF YOUR MISSION HERE, AGENT??
AND WHO PULLED THE TRIGGER ON IT?
YOU HAVE--I'LL BE HONEST--YOU DO HAVE A CHANCE OF GETTING OUT OF THIS PLACE IF YOU COUGH UP A NAME.
WITHOUT IT? NOT SO MUCH.
I HAVE ASSASSINATION AUTHORITY, BARBIE.
A NAME OR I TICKLE YOUR FRONTAL LOBE WITH MY VENOM BLAST.

A NAME!!!!
YOU WORKING FOR YOURSELF? BECAUSE I DON'T THINK YOU ARE!!
JESSICA--
WHO ARE YOU WORKING FOR??
I WORK FOR THE SAME PEOPLE YOU WORK FOR!!
AND WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
NOTHING BUT COSTUMES.
JUST DICE HER AND LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.
THAT'S NOT HOW WE--
UH... GUYS?

RRUUAARGGHUUU!!
WHOOOOOOOSHHH!
AAIEEEEEE!!!

FFFSSSHAAZAMM
AAIEEEEEE!!
NARGH!
KTANG
ARGH!
BOMK
DAMN!

LYKOS POPPING UP ALIVE AGAIN-- THAT ONE MIGHT HAVE BEEN MY FAULT.
HE ABSORBS MUTANT ENERGY. LOOKS LIKE HE TOOK SOME OF MY HEALIN' FACTOR WHEN HE GRABBED MINE.
SORRY ABOUT THAT-- I THOUGHT I COULD JUMP HIM.
WE WANT HIM ALIVE. IS HE?
YEAH.
GOOD.
LET'S TAKE HIM BACK TO THE SURFACE WORLD. HE'LL ANSWER FOR HIS CRIMES.
WHAT ABOUT THAT FAKE BLACK WIDOW?
EXACTLY.
I CAN TRACK HER. BUT IT DON'T SMELL PROMISING. SHE TOOK THAT HIT PRETTY HARD.
KWAAAGGHH!
WE REALLY GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE.
HOW ARE WE GETTIN' OUT OF HERE?
THESE ROGUE S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENTS GOT HERE SOMEHOW. LET'S GO FIND THEM AND HITCH A RIDE.
SCANNING...
HOLD ON.
THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON ABOUT FOUR KLIKS THAT WAY. STRANGE READINGS.
PLEASE, LET'S HEAD RIGHT FOR THE STRANGE READINGS.

ANYONE WANT TO CARRY ME?
DON'T YOU HAVE THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH OF A SPIDER?
WHO HASN'T SLEPT IN THREE DAYS, WHO GOT HIS ARM BROKEN AND HASN'T HAD IT LOOKED AT YET, WHO IS NOW HIKING THROUGH THE TROPICAL JUNGLE IN HIS FULL-BODY LONG JOHNS AND BOOTIES.
THAT SPIDER THAT BIT YA MUST HAVE BEEN ONE WHINEY SPIDER.
BOOTIES?

ARMOR POWER AT 25%. CHARGING. SOLAR POWER CONVERTING.

ORDER: SYSTEMS CHECK.

CROSS-FILE CHECK OF S.H.I.E.L.D. RAFT FILES READY.

YEAH, OKAY. ORDER: SHOW ME WHAT YOU--

WHAT IS THIS, ARMOR? WHAT ARE YOU SHOWING ME?

SYSTEMS CHECK COMPLETE.

ORDER: VIRUS CHECK.

VIRUS CHECK COMPLETE. SYSTEM CLEAN.

TWENTY-ONE LOGGED FILES MISMATCH TO PROGRAM SOURCE CONFIRM.

TONY?!

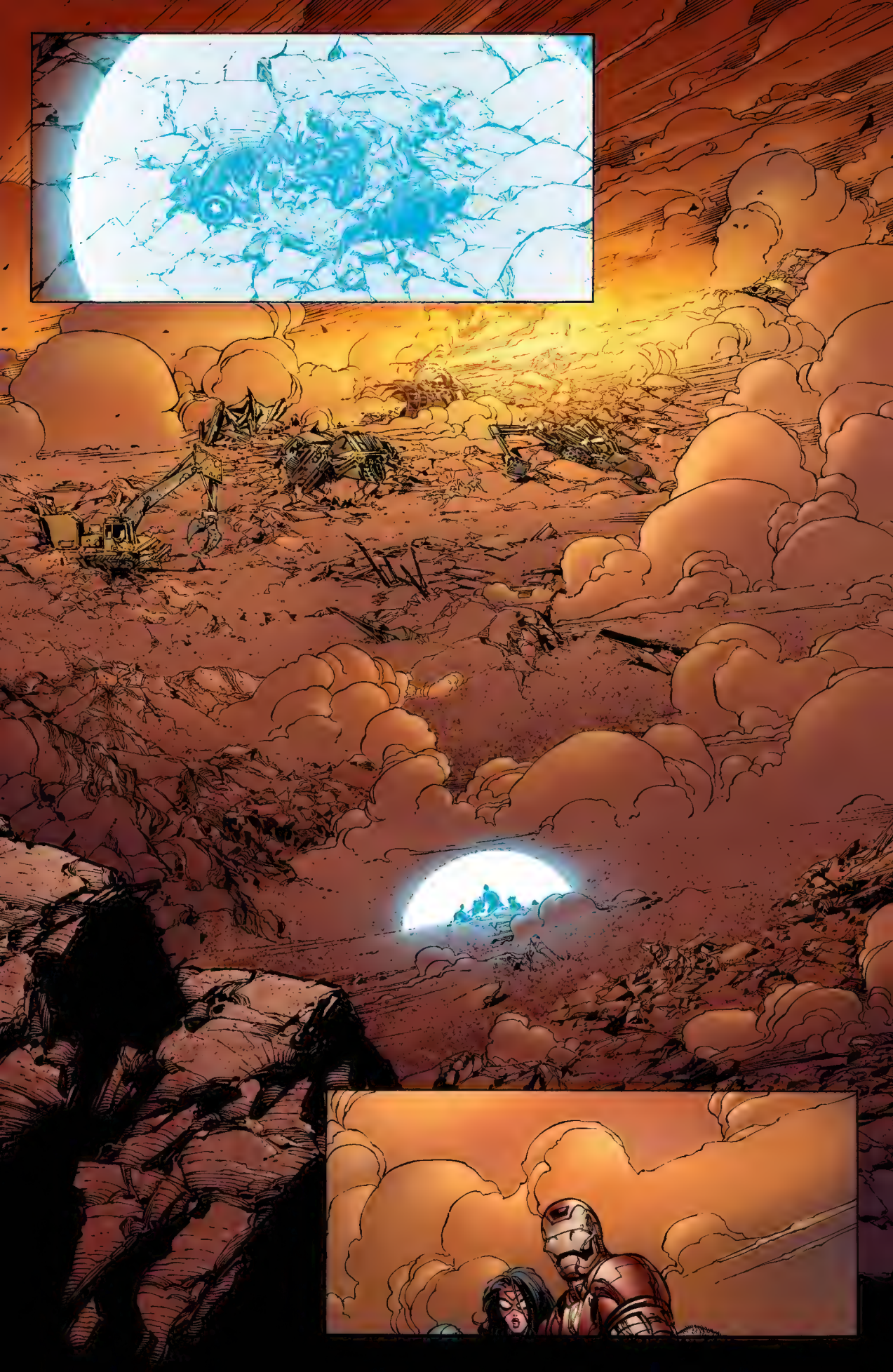
TONY, YOU SEE THIS?

OH MY GOD...

WHAT ARE THEY--?
VIBRANIUM IS WHAT THEY USE TO MAKE SUPER-POWERED WEAPONS.
INTERNATIONALLY CONDEMNED WEAPONS.
AND THOSE PEOPLE, THEY---
YEAH, THEY ARE ENSLAVING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF THE SAVAGE LAND TO MINE FOREIGN SOIL TO STOCKPILE RESERVES OF VIBRANIUM!
I'M RIGHT, CAP, RIGHT? IS THAT WHAT THIS IS?
THEY'RE ILLEGALLY STOCKPILING BANNED WEAPONS MATERIALS?
IS THAT WHAT WE'RE LOOKING AT?
THIS IS *OUR* GOVERNMENT DOING THIS?!!
S.H.I.E.L.D. IS A WORLD-ORDER, PEACEKEEPING TASK FORCE.
IT'S FOR NO COUNTRY AND EVERY COUNTRY.
THEN WHY WOULD A WORLD ORDE--?
I DON'T KNOW.
WHO ORDERED THIS?
I DON'T KNOW.
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO ABOUT IT?
WE STOP THEM.

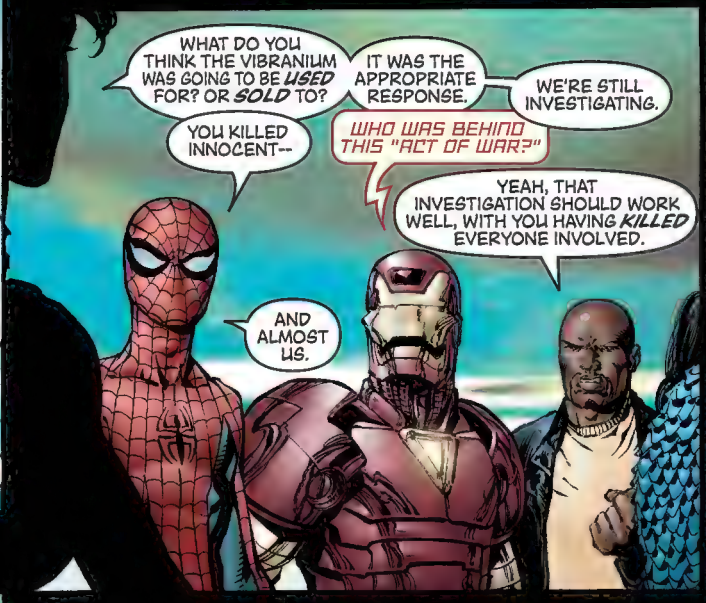
UH, GUYS...
LEVEL WHITE ENERGY FLUX INCOMING.
OH NO.
MULTIPLE ENERGY FLUXES INCOMING

ARMOR, REPULSOR FIELD.
ENERGIZING.
FULL SHIELD!!!
OH MY...



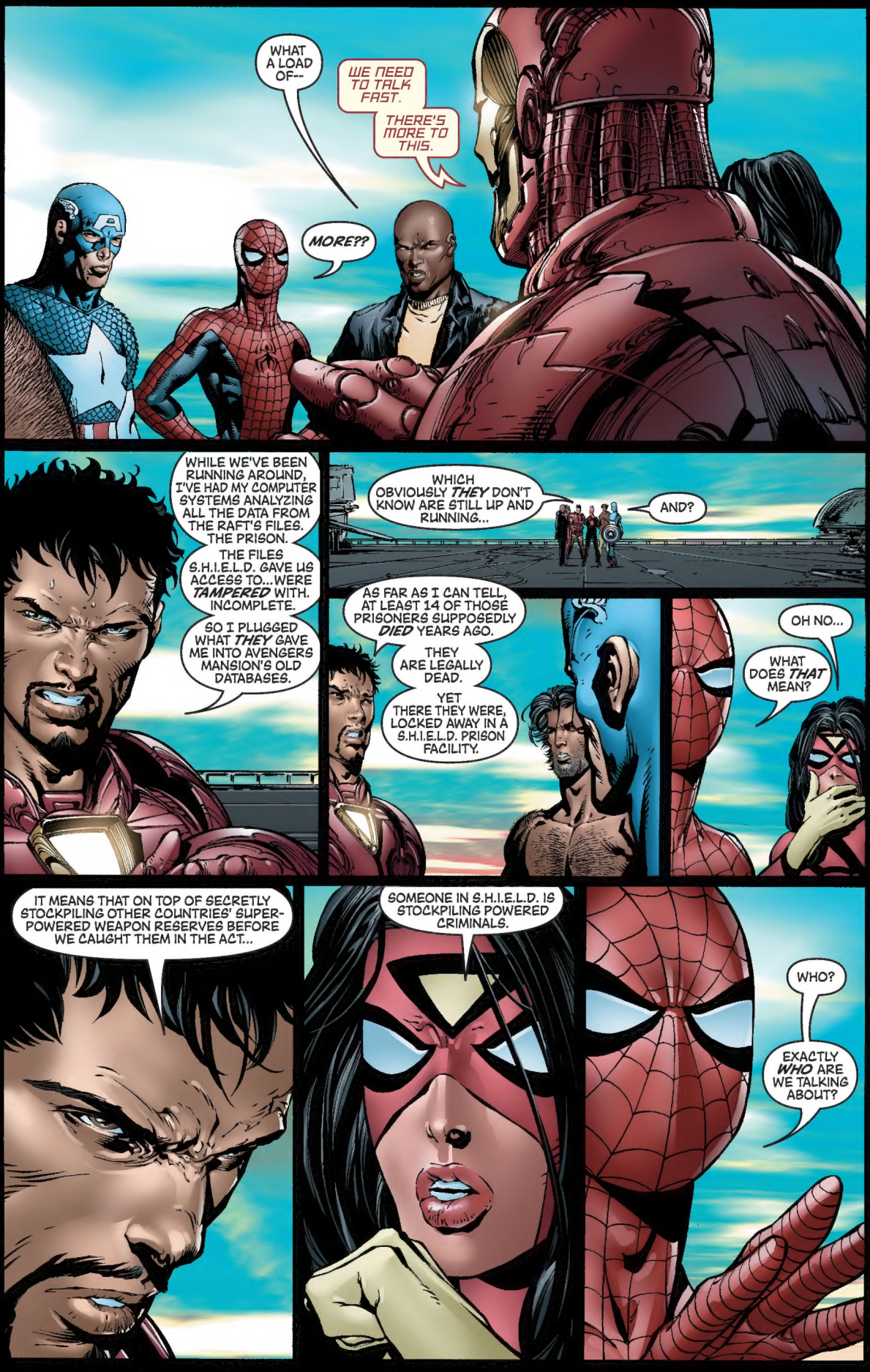
YOU'RE A MURDERER, HILL!!
STAND DOWN, SOLDIER!
YOU'RE A MURDERER AND I'M GOING TO HAVE YOUR HIDE FOR THIS!!!
CAPTAIN, YOU DID YOUR INVESTIGATION, AND WE DID OURS!!

ALL ROADS LED S.H.I.E.L.D. TO THIS COVERT FACTION OF OUR OWN ORGANIZATION POACHING VIBRANIUM OFF OF FOREIGN SOIL.
THIS WAS AN ACT OF WAR!!
IMMEDIATE RETALIATION WAS ORDERED!


WHAT DO YOU THINK THE VIBRANIUM WAS GOING TO BE USED FOR? OR SOLD TO?
IT WAS THE APPROPRIATE RESPONSE.
WE'RE STILL INVESTIGATING.
YOU KILLED INNOCENT--
WHO WAS BEHIND THIS "ACT OF WAR?"
YEAH, THAT INVESTIGATION SHOULD WORK WELL, WITH YOU HAVING KILLED EVERYONE INVOLVED.
AND ALMOST US.

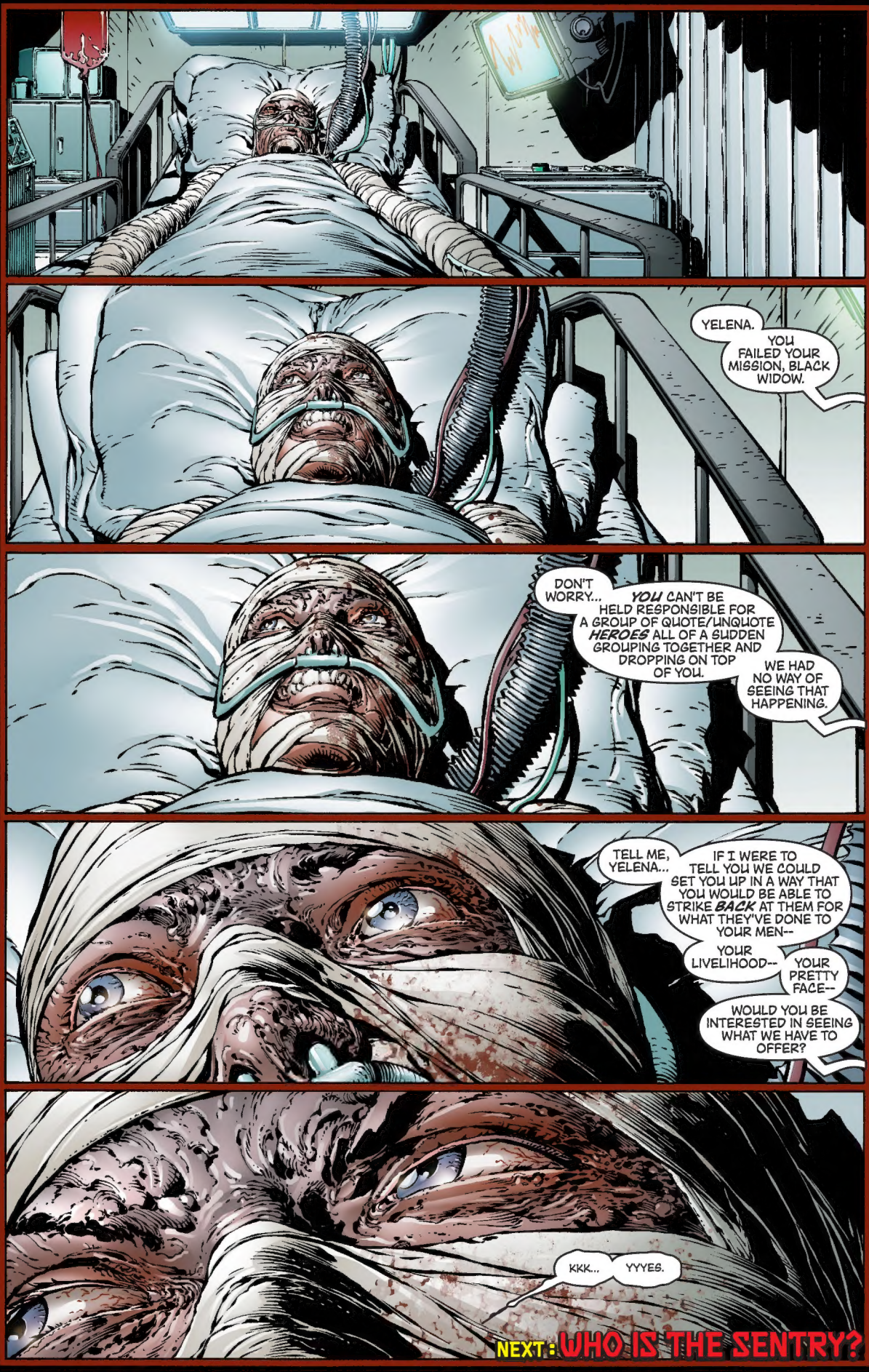
OUR DEFENSE SYSTEMS WERE PREPROGRAMMING AN HOUR BEFORE THE OFFENSIVE LAUNCHED.
YEAH, WE BELIEVE YOU.
I ASSURE YOU, "AVENGERS." YOU PEOPLE ARE NATIONAL TREASURES. WE WOULD NEVER PURPOSELY HARM YOU.
YOU WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO BE THERE.
YOU ARE SO FULL OF %$#@, LADY.

SHE AIN'T, ACTUALLY.
I CAN SMELL IT ON A PERSON WHEN THEY ARE. SHE AIN'T LYING.
BUT THEN AGAIN, S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENTS ARE TRAINED TO LIE.
AND SHE'S THE ONE IN CHARGE. SHE'S THE TOP LIAR.
I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE UPSET.
THE HELICARRIER IS HEADING BACK TO THE UNITED STATES. WE'LL DROP YOU BACK IN NEW YORK CITY ON OUR WAY TO WASHINGTON.
I'M SORRY FOR WHAT YOU WENT THROUGH TODAY.
BUT THANK YOU FOR GETTING SAURON BACK IN CUSTODY.
THE DIRECTOR OF WEAPON X WANTED ME TO TELL YOU HE APPRECIATED THE EFFORT.
FOR THE RECORD... ...WE DID ASK YOU TO STAND DOWN.
YOU IGNORED US.


WHAT A LOAD OF--
WE NEED TO TALK FAST.
THERE'S MORE TO THIS.
MORE??
WHILE WE'VE BEEN RUNNING AROUND, I'VE HAD MY COMPUTER SYSTEMS ANALYZING ALL THE DATA FROM THE RAFT'S FILES. THE PRISON.
THE FILES S.H.I.E.L.D. GAVE US ACCESS TO...WERE TAMPERED WITH. INCOMPLETE.
SO I PLUGGED WHAT THEY GAVE ME INTO AVENGERS MANSION'S OLD DATABASES.
WHICH OBVIOUSLY THEY DON'T KNOW ARE STILL UP AND RUNNING...
AND?
AS FAR AS I CAN TELL, AT LEAST 14 OF THOSE PRISONERS SUPPOSEDLY DIED YEARS AGO.
THEY ARE LEGALLY DEAD.
YET THERE THEY WERE, LOCKED AWAY IN A S.H.I.E.L.D. PRISON FACILITY.
OH NO...
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
IT MEANS THAT ON TOP OF SECRETLY STOCKPILING OTHER COUNTRIES' SUPER-POWERED WEAPON RESERVES BEFORE WE CAUGHT THEM IN THE ACT...
SOMEONE IN S.H.I.E.L.D. IS STOCKPILING POWERED CRIMINALS.
WHO?
EXACTLY WHO ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

WE DON'T KNOW YET.
THIS IS BAD, CAP.
THIS IS SO BAD.
THEN WHO DO WE TRUST WITH THIS INFORMATION?
SHOULD WE GO TO THE PRESS?
IF WE DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT, THE REAL BAD GUYS IN THIS, WHOEVER THEY ARE... THEY RETREAT. THEY DISAPPEAR.
SO WHAT? WE NEED TO STOP THIS RIGHT NOW. NO GAMES. RIGHT NOW.
THAT WON'T STOP THEM.
THEY ALREADY KNOW WE KNOW SOMETHING.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
THEY KNOW WE'RE THE ENEMY NOW.
THAT'S THE THING. THEY KNOW WHO WE ARE, WE DON'T KNOW WHO THEY ARE.
THIS--THIS IS MORE THAN YOU BARGAINED FOR, AVENGERS...
I'M SORRY.
IF YOU WANT OUT, KNOWING THIS-- IF YOU WANT OUT, I TOTALLY UNDERSTAND.
OUT OF WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING TOGETHER?
WE'RE THE NEW AVENGERS.
YOU WANT IN?
IN WHAT?
UH, TONY...

CAP, YOU SAID THIS TEAM CAME TOGETHER BY...FATE. YOUR WORD.
JUST LIKE THE ORIGINAL AVENGERS...
RIGHT? YES.
WELL, THE ORIGINAL AVENGERS DIDN'T TRULY COME TOGETHER...UNTIL THAT ONE LAST INGREDIENT CAME INTO THE MIX.
WE NEEDED ONE LAST INGREDIENT.
AND THEN WHEN WE FOUND YOU...
...YOU WERE THAT ONE THING.
BUT FOR THIS TEAM, FOR THIS SITUATION, IN THIS WORLD...
...HE IS YOU.
HE IS OUR MISSING INGREDIENT.
TONY, HE'S A MURDERER.
HE'S A SAMURAI WARRIOR.
AFTER WHAT HAPPENED TO US WITH WANDA, AFTER WHAT WE KNOW HAPPENED HERE TODAY--
--WE CAN'T AFFORD NOT TO HAVE HIM.
WE'RE GOING TO NEED SOMEONE TO GO TO THAT PLACE THAT WE CAN'T.
AND YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT I MEAN.
I WISH THAT WASN'T TRUE.
I KNOW.
HE'LL SAY NO. HE'S AN X-MAN.
HE CAN BE BOTH.
AND NO ONE SAYS NO TO RICH PEOPLE. NOT EVEN YOU.
TONY, THIS THING TODAY--
NOT SINCE THE WAR...
WE'LL FIND OUT WHO OUR ENEMIES ARE.
WE'LL FIND WHO DID THIS.
AND THEN WE'LL AVENGE IT.


YELENA.
YOU FAILED YOUR MISSION, BLACK WIDOW.
DON'T WORRY...
YOU CAN'T BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR A GROUP OF QUOTE/UNQUOTE *HEROES* ALL OF A SUDDEN GROUPING TOGETHER AND DROPPING ON TOP OF YOU.
WE HAD NO WAY OF SEEING THAT HAPPENING.
TELL ME, YELENA...
IF I WERE TO TELL YOU WE COULD SET YOU UP IN A WAY THAT YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO STRIKE *BACK* AT THEM FOR WHAT THEY'VE DONE TO YOUR MEN--
YOUR LIVELIHOOD--
YOUR PRETTY FACE--
WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN SEEING WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER?
KKK...
YYYES.
NEXT: WHO IS THE SENTRY?